Section I:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.121 to the

CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended):

A method for managing sender address information in a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic messaging system, said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses, said electronic mail message having a header section and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said body section containing a forwarded message and fields indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user, said method comprising the steps of:

searching said ~~body section~~ header section of said electronic mail message for ~~said~~ one or more chain sender addresses of senders having sent said message prior to said most recent sender, said chain sender addresses being contained in a list associated with a Sender-chain header tag; ~~and~~

providing a first user control on said electronic messaging system user interface for displaying one or more of said chain sender addresses; and

displaying one or more chain sender addresses on said user display responsive to operation of said first user control by a user such that a user may view one or more chain sender addresses.

Claim 2 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said step of searching ~~the body section of an electronic mail message further~~ comprises searching a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message.

Claim 3 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising ~~wherein said step of searching the body section of an electronic mail message further comprises~~ searching an inline quoted forwarded message contained within said body section for additional senders of said message who have sent the message prior to the most recent sender.

Claim 4 (currently amended):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising ~~wherein said step of searching the body section of an electronic mail message further comprises~~ searching an attached forwarded electronic mail message for additional senders of said message who have sent the message prior to the most recent sender.

Claim 5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising the step of providing a second user control for selecting one or more of said displayed chain sender addresses.

Claim 7 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 6 further comprising the steps of:

providing a third user control for adding said selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book; and

automatically adding said selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book responsive to operation of said third user control.

Claim 8 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 6 further comprising the steps of:

providing a third user control for adding said selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book as a new group of entries; and

automatically adding said group of selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book responsive to operation of said third user control.

Claim 9 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 6 further comprising the steps of:

providing a third user control for automatically addressing a new electronic mail message to said selected chain sender addresses; and

automatically addressing a new electronic mail message to said selected chain sender addresses responsive to operation of said third user control.

Claim 10 (currently amended):

A method for managing sender address information in a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic messaging system, said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses, said electronic mail message having a header section and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said body section containing a forwarded message and fields indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user, said method comprising the steps of:

searching said body section of said electronic mail message for said chain sender addresses of senders having sent said message prior to said most recent sender; and

adding a ~~chain sender~~ Sender-chain field to an electronic mail message header section when forwarding the chain forwarded electronic mail message to another recipient, said ~~chain sender~~ Sender-chain field being associated with ~~containing any~~ a list of chain sender addresses found during the step of searching the body section and being associated with the address of the most recent ~~sender~~ sender's address.

Claim 11 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said step of searching the body section further comprises searching a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message.

Claim 12 (previously presented):

The method as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said step of adding a chain sender field further comprises adding a Sender-chain field to a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message.

Claim 13 (currently amended):

A computer-readable media containing computer program code for managing sender address information in a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic messaging system, said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses, said electronic mail message having a header section and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said body section containing a forwarded message and fields indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user, and said electronic message system having a processor for executing computer program code such that when said computer program code executed by said processor, said electronic message system performs the steps of:

searching said ~~body section~~ header section of said electronic mail message for ~~said~~ one or more chain sender addresses of senders having sent said message prior to said most recent sender, said chain sender addresses being contained in a list associated with a Sender-Chain header tag; ~~and~~

providing a first user control on said electronic messaging system user interface for displaying one or more of said chain sender addresses; and

displaying one or more chain sender addresses on said user display responsive to operation of said first user control by a user such that a user may view one or more chain sender addresses.

Claim 14 (currently amended):

  The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said computer program code for performing the step of searching ~~the body section of an electronic mail message further~~ comprises computer program code for searching a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message.

Claim 15 (currently amended):

  The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said computer program code for performing the step of searching ~~the body section of an electronic mail message further~~ comprises computer program code for searching an inline quoted forwarded message <u>for additional senders of said message who have sent the message prior to the most recent sender</u> ~~contained within said body section.~~

Claim 16 (currently amended):

  The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 13 wherein said computer program code for performing the step of searching ~~the body section of an electronic mail message further~~ comprises computer program code for searching an attached forwarded electronic mail message <u>for additional senders of said message who have sent the message prior to the most recent sender</u>.

Claim 17 (canceled).

Claim 18 (previously presented):

  The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 13 further comprising computer program code for performing a step of providing a second user control for selecting one or more of said displayed chain sender addresses.

Claim 19 (previously presented):

The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 18 further comprising computer program code for performing a steps of:

providing a third user control for adding said selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book; and

automatically adding said selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book responsive to operation of said third user control.

Claim 20 (previously presented):

The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 18 further comprising computer program code for performing the steps of:

providing a third user control for adding said selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book as a new group of entries; and

automatically adding said group of selected chain sender addresses to an electronic mail address book responsive to operation of said third user control.

Claim 21 (previously presented):

The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 18 further comprising computer program code for performing the steps of:

providing a third user control for automatically addressing a new electronic mail message to said selected chain sender addresses; and

automatically addressing a new electronic mail message to said selected chain sender addresses responsive to operation of said third user control.

Claim 22 (currently amended):

A computer-readable media containing computer program code for managing sender address information in a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic messaging system, said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses, said electronic mail message having a header section and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said body section containing a forwarded message and fields indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user, and said electronic message system having a processor for executing computer program code such that when said computer program code executed by said processor, said electronic message system performs the steps of:

searching said body section of said electronic mail message for said <u>one or more</u> chain sender addresses of senders <u>having sent said message</u> prior to said most recent sender; and

adding a <u>Sender-Chain</u> ~~chain sender~~ field to an electronic mail message header section when forwarding the chain forwarded electronic mail message to another recipient, said ~~chain sender field containing~~ <u>Sender-Chain field being associated with</u> ~~any~~ <u>a list of</u> chain sender addresses found during the step of searching the body section and <u>being associated with</u> the address of the most recent sender.

Claim 23 (previously presented):

The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 22 wherein said computer program code for performing the step of searching the body section comprises computer program code for searching a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message.

Claim 24 (currently amended):

The computer-readable media as set forth in Claim 22 wherein said computer program code for performing the step of adding a ~~chain sender~~ <u>Sender-Chain</u> field further comprises computer program code for adding a Sender-Chain field to a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message.

Claim 25 (currently amended):

A chain sender address managing apparatus for managing sender address information of a chain forwarded electronic mail message in an electronic mail messaging system, said sender address information having a plurality of previous sender addresses, said electronic mail message having a header section and a body section, said header section containing fields indicating the sender address of a most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said body section containing a forwarded message and fields indicating chain sender addresses of senders prior to said most recent sender of an electronic mail message, said electronic messaging system having a user display and a user interface for receiving commands and input from a user, said apparatus comprising:

a message searcher for searching said ~~body section~~ header section of a chain forwarded electronic mail message for chain sender addresses of senders having sent said message prior to said most recent sender, said chain sender addresses being contained in a list associated with a Sender-chain header tag; and

a first user control for displaying one or more chain sender addresses on said user display such that a user may view sender addresses of chain senders of a chain forwarded message.

Claim 26 (previously presented):

The apparatus as set forth in Claim 25 further comprising a second user control for selecting one or more of said displayed chain sender addresses.
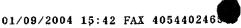
Claim 27 (previously presented):

The apparatus as set forth in Claim 26 further comprising a third user control for adding said selected chain sender addresses to a electronic mail address book.

Claim 28 (previously presented):

The apparatus as set forth in Claim 26 further comprising a third user control for adding said selected chain sender addresses to a electronic mail address book as a group of addresses.

Claim 29 (previously presented):

The apparatus as set forth in Claim 26 further comprising a third user control for automatically addressing a new electronic mail message to said selected chain sender addresses.

Claim 30 (previously presented):

The apparatus as set forth in Claim 25 further wherein said searcher comprises a Simple Mail Transfer Protocol message searcher.

Claim 31 (currently amended):

The apparatus as set forth in Claim 26 further comprising a ~~Chain-Sender~~ <u>Sender-Chain</u> field creator which creates a ~~Chain-Sender~~ <u>Sender-Chain</u> field <u>and address list</u> in a header section of a new message upon forwarding of a chain forwarded message to another recipient.